

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Atsushi NAKAMURA et al. : Attn: **BOX PCT**

Serial No. NEW : Docket No..2001_1856A

Filed December 19, 2001 :

OPTICAL DISC, OPTICAL DISC DRIVE,
AND OPTICAL DISC PLAYBACK METHOD
[Corresponding to PCT/JP00/04026
Filed June 21, 2000]

THE COMMISSIONER IS AUTHORIZED
TO CHARGE ANY DEFICIENCY IN THE
FEES FOR THIS PAPER TO DEPOSIT
ACCOUNT NO. 23-0975

COVER LETTER FOR APPLICATION FILED
WITHOUT EXECUTED DECLARATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents,
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

The above-identified application has been submitted without an executed oath or declaration.

It is respectfully requested that this application be assigned a serial number and awarded a filing date.

A duly executed oath or declaration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.63 will be submitted after notification by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

A non-executed copy of the Declaration and Power of Attorney, containing the inventorship information, is attached. It is respectfully requested that all communications be directed to the firm indicated on the attached Declaration and Power of Attorney, namely:

WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P.
2033 K Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021

The required U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Filing Fee is submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

Atsushi NAKAMURA et al.

By *Michael S. Huppert*

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December 19, 2001

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR U.S. PATENT APPLICATION

Original Supplemental Substitute PCT DESIGN

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that: my residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name; that I verily believe that I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural inventors are named below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

Title: OPTICAL DISC, OPTICAL DISC DRIVE, AND OPTICAL DISC PLAYBACK METHOD

of which is described and claimed in:

- the attached specification, or
 the specification in application Serial No. _____, filed _____, and with amendments through _____, or
 the specification in International Application No. PCT/JP00/04026, filed June 21, 2000, and as amended on _____
 (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the content of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment(s) referred to above.

I acknowledge my duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56.

I hereby claim priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, §119 (and §172 if this application is for a Design) of any application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

COUNTRY	APPLICATION NO.	DATE OF FILING	PRIORITY CLAIMED
Japan	11-174986	June 22, 1999	YES
Japan	11-252394	September 7, 1999	YES
Japan	11-357227	December 16, 1999	YES

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose information material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, §1.56 which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

APPLICATION SERIAL NO.	U.S. FILING DATE	STATUS: PATENTED, PENDING, ABANDONED

And I hereby appoint Michael R. Davis, Reg. No. 25,134; Matthew M. Jacob, Reg. No. 25,154; Warren M. Cheek, Jr., Reg. No. 33,367; Nils Pedersen, Reg. No. 33,145; Charles R. Watts, Reg. No. 33,142; and Michael S. Huppert, Reg. No. 40,268, who together constitute the firm of WENDEROTH, LIND & PONACK, L.L.P., as well as any other attorneys and agents associated with Customer No. 000513, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

I hereby authorize the U.S. attorneys and agents named herein to accept and follow instructions from AOYAMA & PARTNERS as to any action to be taken in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the U.S. attorneys and myself. In the event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the U.S. attorneys named herein will be so notified by me.

Direct Correspondence to Customer No:



000513

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

1st Inventor _____ Date _____
Atsushi NAKAMURA

2nd Inventor _____ Date _____
Mamoru SHOJI

3rd Inventor _____ Date _____
Takashi ISHIDA

4th Inventor _____ Date _____

5th Inventor _____ Date _____

6th Inventor _____ Date _____

The above application may be more particularly identified as follows:

U.S. Application Serial No. _____ Filing Date December 19, 2001

Applicant Reference Number 534838 Mal Atty Docket No. 2001_1856A

Title of Invention OPTICAL DISC, OPTICAL DISC DRIVE, AND OPTICAL DISC PLAYBACK METHOD